(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKARVARTY): (a) and (b) Government of Tripura during August, 1999 has submitted a preliminary proposal amounting to Rs. 20.00 crores for protection of land near Indo-Bangladesh Border under Flood Control Sector in the form of concept paper only seeking financial assistance from the Central Government. After examination, Centre has advised the State Government to supplement the proposal with engineering details duly recommended by the State Technical Advisory Committee/State Flood Control Board. The State Government has also submitted another project proposal on Irrigation and Flood Management costing about Rs. 475 crore for external assistance to Government of India in June, 1999. This has been examined in Ministry of Water Resources and sent to Planning Commission for in principle approval.

Resettlement of the Displaced Persons

†3365. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bade bandho keh fayadon ki tulana mein visthapitas punarwas ki samasya naganya" published in a daily newspaper dated December 24, 1999;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment to the effect that the benefits from the construction of big dams are greater than the losses to those rendered homeless due to the construction of the same;

(c) if so, whether Government have made any estimate of the number of persons rendered homeless due to the construction of big dams so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Several case studies analysing benefits and losses of dams completed in the country 2 to 3 decades ago were presented and discussed in a seminar organised by India. Water Resources society on the subject "Large Dams-Benefits and Losses" on

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

9th December 1999 at New Delhi. The seminar concluded that the benefits from these multi-purpose projects far outweighed the adverse impact. Central Government does not maintain record of the number of people displaced by dams. However, a study carried out by Central Water Commission indicates that about seven million people have been displaced on account of construction of large dams.

Cost Escalation of Narmada Dam Project

3366. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minster of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of progress of Narmada Dam Project indicating the expenditure so far incurred thereon;

(b) what was the original estimated cost thereof, stage-wise and the cost-escalation incurred so far; and

(c) the number of villages in Kutch (Gujarat) to be provided with drinking water with the completion of the Dam and how far the drinking water scheme as a whole has progressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b)The original estimated cost of Sardar Sarovar Project at 1986-87 price level as approved by the Planning Commission in October, 1988 and the expenditure incurred upto February 2000 is as under:—

Unit/Group		Approved Cost (1986-87) Price level	Exp. Commulative up to Feb., 2000
UNIT-I	DAM/APPT. WORKS	1019.45	1840.11
UNIT-II	MAIN CANAL	1588.54	2804.14
UNIT-	HYDRO POWER	979.95	969.82
GROUP	IV BRANCHES & DIST.	2818.10	2044.08
GROUP	V COMMON EXP.	17.99	1519.52
GROUP	VI NON SHARABLE EXP.	—	
	TOTAL	6406.04	9195.66

The progress of work on various components of the project at the ends of February, 2000 is as under:—